

SEWER EXPLOSION.

Six Men Seriously Injured in South Street This Morning.

Buildings Shaken for Blocks Around by the Detonation.

Horses Stampeded and a Panic in the Crowded Thoroughfare.

An explosion of sewer gas resulted in the serious injury of six men and a panic on South street this morning.

There was a terrific detonation at 8:45 o'clock. Buildings were shaken for blocks around and a-seeing, hissing mass of fire burst from the sewer manhole in front of 104 South street, setting fire to the awning in front of the buildings.

The frightened occupants of the houses in the neighborhood rushed into the street, and to add to the excitement the manhole covers from Steakman street to Peck slip were blown in that crowd, which caused a stampede of horses in that crowded thoroughfare.

Had there been more danger after the explosion occurred the loss of life would have been awful, as hundreds of men were practically hemmed in and cut off from escape by the barrier of wagons in the blockade.

Shouts, curses and shrieks filled the air. The shouts and curses came from the drivers, the wheels of whose vehicles appeared to be inextricably mixed up.

The shrieks came from the unfortunate men in the sewer, enveloped in smoke and fire. They had been cleaning the sewer and the lighted lamp one of them held ignited the gas which had accumulated in the underground hole.

The small of burning flesh which arose with the other sickening odors from the sewers told plainly the fate the victims would meet, if some were not already dead, unless they were rescued at once.

Policemen Albert Kull and Thomas F. Gilroy, of Capt. O'Connor's command, were promptly on hand and acted promptly.

They called for volunteers, and led the way down the ladders in the stifling smoke. Crowds surrounded the manholes, but no one seemed willing to follow the brave policeman.

"It's sure death by suffocation to go down there," said one.

"No, it isn't," replied Kull. "Don't you hear the moans and groans of the poor fellows? They are alive yet. Don't let them perish."

This appeal brought volunteers, Morris Kohn, James Griffin and William Handall.

They worked systematically. Arranged in line, one by one the victims were passed from one of the rescuing party to the other until they were safely on land, where kind and willing hands cared for them.

They were all unconscious, but the air revived them, only to make them conscious of their pains, and their moans and groans were renewed.

The rescuers themselves were nearly choked by the smoke and gas.

All of the men were burned about the face and arms, some of them so badly that their features were unrecognizable. Their names are:

JOHN MITCHELL, aged twenty-eight, of 224 East Seventeenth street.

JOHN CLARK, aged forty-five, of 509 West Fifth street.

JOHN DALTON, aged thirty, of 501 West Twenty-second street.

THOMAS CARLEY, aged thirty, of 107 West Twenty-third street.

JOHN CLARK, aged forty-five, of 509 West Fifth street.

THOMAS T. SULLIVAN, aged twenty-eight, of 68 Cherry street, who was standing near the manhole when the explosion took place, had his face burned and the left portion of his mustache and hair on his head singed off.

The injured were taken to the Oak street police station, where an ambulance surgeon dressed their wounds, after which they were all removed to the Chambers Street Hospital.

Mitchell and Clark are in a dangerous condition.

Clark held the light which caused the explosion, and Mitchell, who stood next to him, received the contents of the lamp over his clothes, which set him on fire. He may die.

The men were employed by E. H. Foxman, who has the contract for the city for cleaning the sewer on South street. Foreman Edward Kelly, who was in charge of the work, told the following story to an EVENING WORLD reporter:

"We went to work at 7 o'clock this morning to clean the sewer on South street from Fulton to Roosevelt. A man taking his horse had been taken off as far as Bee-man street, where the explosion occurred, half an hour before the men entered the sewer. There have been an unusual quantity of gas accumulated."

"The manhole covers are taken off to give light and purify the air."

"The men usually carry a lamp when they go down a sewer. A lamp has never occurred before in my experience. No one is to blame. The danger was not suspected, for the gas had plenty of time to escape in thirty minutes."

"I was in the sewer myself, but half the crowd from where the men were working. There was no gas where I stood and the flames did not reach me. I took an inventory. It shot up like lightning, and next the sewer was filled with smoke."

"Eikenbach, an assistant sewer inspector, in the city's employ, was also in the sewer at the time of the explosion, about a block away from Bee-man street. The force of the shock threw him down and he was nearly drowned in mud."

City sewer Inspector Michael Connelly, whose duty it is to examine the work of the contractor, was about to go down the hole when the accident occurred. He changed his mind then, but assisted in the rescue afterwards.

He said the sewer was one of the largest in the city, built last year. It was not deep enough for three men to walk through it abreast with heads erect. He could not account for the accumulation of so much gas at the place where it ignited.

The matter will be investigated. A Commissioner of Public Works Gilroy (formerly Engineer of the Erie Railroad, in charge of the Bureau of Sewerage) is making an investigation at once as to the cause of the explosion."

COKE STRIKERS AGAIN VIOLENT.

Deputies Robbed of Watch and Money, Near the Leith Works.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.)

UNIONTOWN, Pa., May 15.—The strikers are again on the warpath. The withdrawal of the soldiers has emboldened them.

This morning two deputies were attacked near the Leith Coke works and robbed of a gold watch and \$100.

Another house was burned at Leith last night.

Wire News in Brief.

The President reached Columbus at midnight.

Mitchell's forest fire are subsiding.

Estimated loss by Mitchell's fire, \$100,000.

One man killed by falling wall, in an investigation.

An alleged Russian, Maurice Copeland, charged with being a spy, was taken through the streets of New York.

A woman was killed by a train in Russia.

MR. BLAINE HAS A RELAPSE.

He Passed a Bad Night and Is Suffering Great Pain.

His Daughter Says He Has the Gout in Both Feet.

It was learned at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Damrosch, this morning that Secretary James G. Blaine had passed an uncomfortable night, at times suffering great pain.

To-day, however, he is resting easier. Mrs. Blaine was in attendance at her distinguished husband's bedside.

Dr. Dennis called on his patient at 8:30 o'clock and it was then decided that Mr. Blaine should not go to Washington until his recovery was complete.

At 1 o'clock this afternoon, Dr. Dennis gave out the following statement for publication:

"This morning Mr. Blaine had an attack of gout in both feet. This will prevent him from leaving town for a few days."

Mrs. Damrosch said to an EVENING WORLD reporter this afternoon:

"I cannot account for the sensational reports which circulate downtown regarding my father's condition."

To be sure, he has the gout. It has become aggravated by his confinement, and by the recent attack of indigestion, but we are not alarmed in the slightest degree.

"Dr. Dennis's statement to the newspaper representatives this morning should not occasion any alarm, for it merely meant Mr. Blaine's gout had the river to both feet, and that it would be impracticable to allow him to travel for a few days. I read this statement myself before it was handed to the press."

"Father will leave here early next week; we don't know just what day, and it has not been decided upon yet."

He will go to Washington, or to Elsworth, Me., where my father and mother have been invited by Senator Hale to pass a few days."

CHILD IMMIGRANTS SAFE.

Fifteen Children, Unaccompanied, Arrive on the Trave.

Fifteen little Tatars, boys and girls from nine to sixteen years old, arrived on the Hamburg line steamer Trave this morning.

They were unaccompanied by either friends or relatives, and Col. Weber had them detained at the Barge Office until called for.

Each was carefully labelled with name, age, address and destination. Two were bound for Savannah, Ga., two for Chicago, and two for points in Iowa.

All but two of the youthful travelers—George Reuter, aged fifteen, and Johann Meyer, aged sixteen—had been called for at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

NINETEEN MEN DROWNED.

A Steamer Runs Down a Flatboat in the Duquesne River.

(SPECIAL CABLE TO THE EVENING WORLD.)

ST. PETERSBURG, May 15.—An accident by which nineteen workmen lost their lives occurred on the Duquesne River to-day.

A flatboat containing a number of workmen proceeding down the river was run into by a steamer bound up the stream.

The flatboat sank almost immediately, drowning nineteen of the occupants.

The officers of the steamer are blamed for the accident.

CHARLESTON STEAMING NORTH.

Has the Itata Escaped, or Been Allowed to Go?

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.)

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The Navy Department has been informed that the Charleston, which was captured by the British, is now steaming northward.

In the absence of further information, this is supposed to indicate either that the Itata has made good her escape, or else that the Charleston overboarded her and finding no arms on board allowed her to continue on her way.

The body of Bridget Clark was lying in an ice-box in an undertaker's store at 1034 Third avenue this morning pending the funeral, which takes place Sunday. The burns on her face indicate the terrible sufferings she encountered.

When the firemen searched the house, after the fire, they found her dead on her knees in a closet in the apartment of her aunt, Mrs. Bridget Kenny, where she had taken refuge from the flames.

She was literally roasted to death. Certain it is that the fire broke out in the apartments of a Mrs. Meiler and her sister, on the third floor, and soon spread to the upper story, which was jointly occupied by the Colberts and Mrs. Bridget Kenny, her daughter Mary and Bridget Clark.

The flames burst in upon the people before they had time to realize what had happened. The Kenuys escaped with slight burns. Morris Colbert managed to pass through the flames, but was severely burned, and his wife in trying to escape fell from her window to the street, and was fatally shocked. The fire and smoke prevented the Clark girl from escaping.

The fire was confined to the upper floors and was soon put out by the firemen. The family of Jacob Munk, whose bakery is on the ground floor and who lives on the second floor, were obliged to leave the apartments to escape the suffocating smoke.

The upper portion of the interior of the building, which is owned by C. A. Crankshaw, is a complete ruin.

The Kenuys, Meiler and Colbert families lost all they had, to the extent of about \$5,000. They were not insured.

Water damaged the apartments and store of Baker Munk \$4,000, and the damage to the building will reach \$3,000. The building and Munk's bakery were insured.

DUNCAN SAYS HE AND HIS WIFE HAD AGREED TO DIE.

(SPECIAL CABLE NEWS SPECIAL.)

CHICAGO, May 15.—Richard C. Duncan, of Washington, D. C., who was arrested at a station in New York, for assisting his bride while walking on Mount Snowdon, in Wales, has called to his brother, Louis, in Washington, to send him \$100, whereupon to defend himself from the charges against him.

When Duncan was arrested he said that if he had been in charge of the mountain for two hours he would have taken his own life, adding that he was a prearranged plan between him and his wife.

When the couple were found Mrs. Duncan lay on a bed of rock, her head crushed and bleeding, while Duncan stood over her holding a heavy piece of rock with which he had dealt the fatal blow. No motive is known for the crime.

Duncan was to-day remanded for a week.

Appointments by Gilroy.

The Commissioner of Public Works to-day appointed H. De Witt an inspector of sewers at a salary of \$1,200 in place of Daniel Murray, deceased. He was also appointed John H. De Witt a roadman at a salary of \$1,000.

POOLROOMS ARE ALL OPEN.

Race Track "Commission Business" Comes in With the Handicap.

Form of the Tickets Issued, and Plans for Getting the News.

The pool-room keepers of this city have taken the bit between their teeth, and to-day nearly every one on the familiar old resorts is open and doing plenty of business.

Ever since the rooms closed so hastily, April 14, the day after Sam Fisher, the manager of Mike Milden's pool-room, at 33 West Twenty-ninth street, was sentenced by Judge Barker to three months in jail and to pay \$1,000 fine, the pool-room keepers' Association has had frequent consultation with its counsel with a view to formulating some method whereby the city rooms could get their clothes once again on a portion of the profitable business which was all being diverted to the track.

It was decided to do business under the guise of commission merchants, and this the black form drawn up to cover or evade the law.

As Commission Agents, I ask you to send for me to the Trave, if you wish to see them. I will be there to place on the items.

I will pay ten cents, your charge for executing this commission.

It had been seriously stated during the past three weeks that the poolrooms would open almost any day; but the date finally settled on was to-day, May 15, the occasion of the great Brooklyn Handicap.

Yesterday afternoon the principal room-keepers in this city met at Howe & Hummel's office, and a conference of nearly two hours discussed the matter.

The result was shown this morning when Pete Delany's place, at 33 Park Row and 3 Barclay street; Mahoney's, Centre street, near Chambers, and in fact all the places about town opened their doors fearlessly, and filled out the familiar blackboards with the records of horses' weights and "jocks" and "odds."

All the places visited by an EVENING WORLD reporter were taking in cash in a lively fashion and horse talk bubbled on just as if no laws were ever passed to prohibit the gambling.

The Dwyers have proclaimed that no arrangements could be perfected with the telephone company whereby orders could be transmitted from Gravesend to the city pool-rooms. But a temporary telegraph booth has been erected just outside the track, and forty-five operators are now at Gravesend covering entries, weights, post odds, winners and place horses.

In each pool-room in this city is an operator, and the distant city rooms will promptly get the results just as quickly as of yore, and cash winning commission orders with all the old-time celerity.

No arrests had been made up to 10 o'clock.

TWO DEAD FROM THE FLAMES.

Mrs. Colbert's Injuries at the Third Avenue Fire Prove Fatal.

The second death resulting from the fire at 10 o'clock last night in the four-story brick building, 1040 Third avenue, during which Bridget Clark, a sixteen-year-old girl, was roasted to death, occurred early this morning in the Presbyterian Hospital. It was that of Mrs. Mary Colbert, who with her husband, Morris Colbert, had been removed to the hospital suffering from shock and burns.

Her husband is suffering from severe burns, but he will probably recover.

The body of Bridget Clark was lying in an ice-box in an undertaker's store at 1034 Third avenue this morning pending the funeral, which takes place Sunday. The burns on her face indicate the terrible sufferings she encountered.

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WHAT'S the question? This

"How can a lean man get fat?" The answer is easy—

"Eat H-O."

You buy beef. You pay 3 cents a pound for fat.

Milk 3 cents. Potatoes 1 cent. Bread 1 cent. H-O 1 cent. There's

no possibility of getting any cheaper fat-producing diet than H-O, without

it might be corn, which is a fifteenth part of a thousand more nutritive.

But think of the exquisite flavor of H-O.

THE CLOVER HILL, 71-73 Park Place, New York.

A. J. CAMMEYER

Sixth Ave., cor. 12th St.

HIS AWFUL DEATH AGONY.

Henry Hammell's Futile Struggles Witnessed by His Wife.

He Stepped on a Rusty Nail, and Lockjaw Set In.

There is that in the face of Henry Hammell, dead at Roosevelt Hospital, that tells to the beholder that it was an awful, agonizing struggle with a terrible death which his distracted, faithful wife, Lena, witnessed at his bedside.

Hammell died of lockjaw, after a heroic battle lasting from Monday last till yesterday morning. He was a German carpenter, only twenty-eight years old, robust, muscular and full of vital force. He and Lena had been married only a few months, and they lived at Guttenberg.

Two weeks ago last Monday, while Henry was at work, he stepped upon a nail. The nail entered a crevice in his shoe, pricked the skin and passed into the sole of his foot.

It left a painful wound, which bled freely. Hammell stopped the bleeding with a shoemaker's wax, and continued his work, and he had no medical assistance.

He continued his work until last Saturday, but the wound in his foot did not heal. Inflammation set in and Monday he suffered from twinges of the nerves. His foot had swollen, so that it was necessary to cut slits in his shoe to make it loose.

Monday he came to New York and visited a dispensary. He was suffering from a stiffness of the neck and pains in the back. He related the story of the wounded foot, not dreaming that there was any connection between it and the pains in his body, but the doctors at the dispensary quickly discerned that the poor fellow had the first symptoms of tetanus, commonly known as lockjaw.

They advised him to go to a hospital. Roosevelt was nearest and Hammell walked to that institution.

Dr. H. C. Kemp was detailed to take special charge of the case, for in nineteen cases out of twenty lockjaw is fatal.

Hammell was put to bed and the usual remedies—bromides of chloral—were administered. The wound was disinfected and large quantities of diseased tissue were removed from the hole in the patient's foot.

Tetanus is a bacterial disease. The bacteria of tetanus are supposed to come from the earth, but they rarely appear save in cases of such wounds as that of Hammell. The disease operates upon the nerves, paralyzing them so that the muscles do not, cannot operate.

When he was admitted to the hospital Hammell's jaw had begun to set. He opened his mouth with difficulty. After a few hours he began to have convulsive spasms. His body would become perfectly rigid, remaining so for several minutes at a time. He was perfectly conscious, and the agonies suffered in these spasms were heartrending.

He asked for his wife, and Lena was sent for. She came, a stammering, loving, faithful wife, and sat by his bedside, watching the unending rigidity, remaining so for several minutes at a time. He was perfectly conscious, and the agonies suffered in these spasms were heartrending.

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